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767 Third Ave
New York, NY 10017-2023

EXAMINER

SELBY, GEVELL V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2615

DATE MAILED: 08/02/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/667,390

Applicant(s)

OGURA, KAZUO

Examiner

Gevell Selby

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 April 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,8,9,12,15-19,22 and 34-66 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 16 and 39 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,8,9,12,15,17-19,22,34-38,40-44,47-66 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 45,46 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 16 recites the limitation "said memory control means" in line 34. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. **Claims 1, 8, 9, 12, 15, 17-19, 22, 34-38, 40-42, 44, 47-55, and 57-66 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ohkado, US 6,351,613.**

In regard to claims 1 and 34, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses a camera (see figure 1 and column 1, lines 66-67) comprising:

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photographing means (see figure 1, element 16 and column 2, lines 50-52);

positioning means (see figure 1, element 15 and column 2, lines 47-49);

positioning timing control means for causing said positioning means to execute positioning at a predetermined timing asynchronous to a photographing timing of said photographing means to thereby obtain positional information (see figure 1, element 10, figure 2, column 2, lines 33-35 and column 3, lines 5-15:

The time is asynchronous to photographing timing in that positioning is done before photographing and photographs can be taken without the timer being reset, if the CPU determines the timer is less the predetermined time T1 (see figure 2, s110, branch NO));

memory means for storing a plurality of images photographed by said photographing means (see column 2, lines 40-44); and

memory control means (see figure 1, element 10) for storing said positional information obtained by said positioning timing control means in said memory means in association with said plurality of photographed images (see column 2, lines 33-35 and column 4, lines 41-46).

In regard to claims 8 and 35, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses the camera comprising:

photographing means (see figure 1, element 16 and column 2, lines 50-52),

positioning means (see figure 1, element 15 and column 2, lines 47-49);

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positioning timing control means (see figure 1, element 10) for causing said positioning means to execute positioning to thereby obtain positional information when a predetermined time has passed without photographing after the photographing of said photographing means (see column 3, lines 56-65 and column 4, lines 7-9);

memory means for storing a plurality of images photographed by said photographing means (see column 2, lines 40-44); and

memory control means (see figure 1, element 10) for storing said positional information obtained by said positioning timing control means in said memory means in association with said plurality of photographed images (see column 2, lines 33-35 and column 4, lines 41-46).

In regard to claims 9 and 36, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses the camera comprising:

photographing means (see figure 1, element 16 and column 2, lines 50-52),

positioning means (see figure 1, element 15);

photographing instruction means (see figure 1, element 32) for instructing photographing by said photographing means (see column 3, lines 38-40) and

photographing control means (see figure 1, element 10) for performing photographing using said photographing means to acquire a photographed image when photographing is instructed by said photographing instruction means (see column 3, line 66 to column 4, line 5);

positioning timing control means (see figure 1, element 10) executes positioning by using said positioning means to hereby acquire positional information when photographing is instructed by said photographing instruction means (see column 3, lines 40-61: When the release switch is turned on in step 108 and the CPU determines the time period T1 has elapsed in step 110, the CPU instructs the GPS receiving circuit to send the GPS information in step 112. Therefore it is clear that positioning is being executed when photographing is being instructed.);

memory means (film or memory) for storing a plurality of images photographed by said photography means (see column 4, lines 28-35 and column 7, lines 50-55);

first memory control means (see figure 1, element 10) for storing said positional information acquired by said positioning timing control means in said memory means in association with a photographed image acquired by said photographing control means (see column 4, lines 41-46), and

second memory control means (see figure 1, element 10) for storing the photographed image acquired by said photographing control means in said memory means in association with said positional information stored in said memory by said first memory control means when photographing is instructed by said photographing instruction means during the positioning of said positioning means (see figure 2 and 3, steps 107-119 and column 3, line 40 to column 4, line 45: When photographing is instructed in step 107, the camera operation proceeds

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until it get the step 114, where the CPU instructs the photo-taking and capture of the image on the film. Then the operation proceeds to step 119, where the CPU records the position information on the same film).

In regard to claims 12 and 37, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses a camera comprising:

photographing means having a series photographing capability, for acquiring image data of a subject (see figure 4 and column 6, line 13-32);

positioning means for executing positioning to obtain positional information(see figure 1, element 15 and see column 6, lines 44-60);

timing control means (figure 1, element 10) for controlling a timing at which said positioning means executes positioning to obtain positional information (see column 3, lines 5-15: The CPU execute positioning if a predetermined time period T1 has elapsed from the last reception of GPS data during a pervious image capture in the series and resets the timer after the position information is taken.);

series photographing instruction means (see figure 1, element 10) for giving a series photographing instruction to said photographing means to carry out series photographing (see figure 4 and column 6, lines 19-32);

series photographing control means (see figure 1, element 34) for performing such control as to cause said photographing means to execute series photographing to acquire a plurality of photographed images in response to said series photographing instruction given by said series photographing instruction

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means (see figure 4 and column 6, lines 20-32: The CPU instructs photo taking in step 114 in response to the mode switch (34) being pressed in step 209 until the release switch is released);

memory means (film or memory) for storing a plurality of images photographed by said photography means (see column 6, lines 44-60 and column 7, lines 50-55); and

memory control means (see figure 1, element 10) for storing said positional information obtained by said positioning means in said memory means in association with each of said plurality of photographed images acquired by said photographing means (see column 6, lines 55-60 and note that the GPS information is associated with each of the photographed images since GPS information is received immediately following the completion of the series photographing mode and therefore is associated with the entire group comprising each picture.).

In regard to claims 15 and 38, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses a camera comprising:

photographing means having a series photographing capability, for acquiring image data of a subject (see figure 4 and column 6, line 13-32);

positioning means for executing positioning to obtain positional information(see figure 1, element 15 and see column 6, lines 44-60);

series photographing instruction means (see figure 1, element 10) for giving a series photographing instruction to said photographing means to carry out series photographing (see figure 4 and column 6, lines 19-32);

series photographing control means (see figure 1, element 10) for performing such control as to cause said photographing means to execute series photographing to acquire a plurality of photographed images in response to said series photographing instruction given by said series photographing instruction means (see figure 4 and column 6, lines 20-32: The CPU instructs photo taking in step 114 in response to the mode switch (34) being pressed in step 209 until the release switch is released);

timing control means (figure 1, element 10) for controlling a timing at which said positioning means executes positioning to obtain positional information when said photographing means executes series photographing (see column 3, lines 5-15: The CPU execute positioning if a predetermined time period T1 has elapsed from the last reception of GPS data during a pervious image capture in the series and resets the timer after the position information is taken.);

memory means (film or memory) for storing a plurality of images photographed by said photography means (see column 6, lines 44-60 and column 7, lines 50-55); and

memory control means (see figure 1, element 10) for storing said positional information obtained by said positioning means in said memory means in association with said plurality of photographed images acquired by said

photographing means (see column 6, lines 55-60 and note that the GPS information is associated with each of the photographed images since GPS information is received immediately following the completion of the series photographing mode and therefore is associated with the entire group comprising each picture.).

In regard to claims 18 and 40, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses a camera (see figure 1) comprising:

photographing means for acquiring image data of a subject (see figure 1, element 16 and column 4, lines 1-5);

positioning means (see figure 1, element 15); and

means for inhibiting photographing by said photographing means while positioning is carried out by said positioning means (see column 3, line 6 to column 4, lines 5: The CPU receives GPS information in step 112 and does not initiate photo taking until step 114 after the GPS information has been received.).

In regard to claims 19 and 41, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses a camera (see figure 1) comprising:

photographing means for acquiring image data of a subject (see figure 1, element 16 and column 4, lines 1-5);

positioning means for executing positioning to acquire positional information (see figure 1, element 15); and

notification means for notifying positioning being in progress while positioning is carried out by said positioning means (see column 4, lines 25-28:

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The LED lights up when GPS information is not being received, so it is inherent that it notifies that GPS information is being received by not lighting up.).

In regard to claims 22 and 42, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses a camera comprising:

photographing means (see figure 1, element 16);

positioning means (see figure 1, element 15) for executing positioning asynchronously to a photographing timing of said photographing means (see figure 1, element 10, figure 2, column 2, lines 33-35 and column 3, lines 5-15: The time is asynchronous to photographing timing in that positioning is done before photographing and photographs can be taken without the timer being reset, if the CPU determines the timer is less the predetermined time T1 (see figure 2, s110, branch NO)); and

control means (see figure 1, element 10) for controlling a positioning operation by said positioning means and a photographing operation by said photographing means in such a way that a positioning timing of said positioning means and a photographing timing of said photographing means do not overlap each other (see column 7, lines 59-65).

In regard to claim 44, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses the camera according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined timing for obtaining said positional information is when a photographing mode is set or is released (see figure 4, elements S209 and S213 and column 6, lines 51-59).

In regard to claim 47, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses the camera according to claim 1, further comprising positioning instruction means (see figure 1, element 10) for giving a position instruction to said photographing means, wherein said positioning timing control means controls the positioning timing of the positioning means in accordance with the positioning instruction of said positioning instruction means (see column 2, lines 33-35 and column 3, lines 56-65).

In regard to claim 48, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses the camera according to claim 1, further comprising:

photographing instruction means for giving a photographing instruction to said photographing means (see figure 1, element 10 and column 3, line 66 to column 4, line 5); and

positioning instruction means (see figure 1, element 10) for giving a position instruction to said photographing means (see column 3, lines 60-65),

wherein said positioning timing control means controls the positioning timing of said positioning means in accordance with the positioning instruction of said positioning instruction means (see column 2, lines 33-35 and column 3, lines 56-65).

In regard to claim 49, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses the camera according to claim 1, further comprising:

photographing instruction means (see figure 1, element 32) for instructing photographing by said photographing means (see column 3, lines 38-40), and

photographing control means (see figure 1, element 10) for performing photographing using said photographing means to acquire a photographed image

when photographing is instructed by said photographing instruction means (see column 3, line 66 to column 4, line 5); and

wherein said positioning timing control means (see figure 1, element 10) executes positioning by using said positioning means to thereby acquire positional information when photographing is instructed by said photographing instruction means (see column 3, lines 37-64); and
said memory control means includes:

first memory control means (see figure 1, element 10) for storing said positional information acquired by said positioning timing control means in said memory means in association with a photographed image acquired by said photographing control means (see column 4, lines 41-46), and

second memory control means (see figure 1, element 10) for storing a photographed image whose photographing is instructed by said photographing instruction means before a predetermined time elapses from a predetermined timing after a photographing instruction given by said photographing instruction means and which is acquired by said photographing control means in said memory means in association with said positional information stored in said memory by said first memory control means (see column 4, lines 41-46 and figures 2 and 3, steps 107-119).

In regard to claim 50, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses a photographing location memorizing method for a camera having photographing means and positioning means (see figure 2), comprising the steps of:

causing said positioning means to execute positioning at a predetermined timing to acquire positional information (see column 3, lines 57-65) and causing said photographing means to photograph an image (see column 3, line 65 to column 4 line 5); and

storing a plurality of images acquired by said photographing means and storing said positional information in association with said plurality of photographed images (see column 4 lines 40-46).

In regard to claim 51, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses the camera according to claim 12, wherein said timing which is controlled by said timing control means is before or immediately after said series photographing instruction is given by said series photographing instruction means (see column 6, lines 55-61: When the series photographing is completed (if the release switch is turned off), the GPS information is received immediately after.).

In regard to claim 52, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses the camera according to claim 12, wherein said timing which is controlled by said timing control means is immediately before or immediately after said series photographing is finished (see figure 4, element S208 and column 6, lines 50-59).

In regard to claim 53, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses a photographing location memorizing method for a camera having photographing means for acquiring image data of a subject, positioning means and a series photographing capability (see figures 2 and 3), comprising:

causing said positioning means to execute positioning at a predetermined timing to acquire positional information (see figure 2, element S112 and column 3, lines 57-65) and causing said photographing means to carry out series photographing in response to a series photographing instruction (see figure 4, element S209 and see column 4, line 66 to column 5, line 2); and

storing a plurality of photographed images acquired by said series photographing and storing said positional information in association with each of said plurality of photographed images (see column 4, lines 40-46).

In regard to claim 54, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses the camera according to claim 1, further comprising positioning instruction means (see figure 1, element 10) for giving a positioning instruction immediately before or after said photographing instruction is given by said photographing instruction means, wherein said positioning timing control means controls a positioning timing of said positioning means in response to said positioning instruction from said positioning instruction means (see column 3, line 57 to column 4, line 5).

In regard to claims 55, 61, and 62, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses the camera according to claims 1, 18 and 19 respectively, wherein positioning timing control means controls said positioning means in such a way that positioning is carried out at a predetermined time interval (see column 3, lines 57-65).

In regard to claim 57, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses the camera according to claim 18, further comprising memory means for storing a photographed image acquired

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by said photographing means in association with said positioning information acquired by said positioning means (see column 4, lines 28-32).

In regard to claims 58 and 59, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses the camera according to claims 18 and 19 respectively, further comprising:

positioning timing control means (see figure 1, element 10) for controlling said positioning means in such a way that positioning is carried out immediately before or immediately after photographing by said photographing means (see column 6, lines 55-59);

In regard to claims 60 and 63, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses the camera according to claims 59 and 62 respectively, wherein said notification means includes a display lamp or a sound output unit (see column 4, lines 26-28: The notification means is an LED).

In regard to claims 64 and 65, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses the camera according to claims 18 and 19 respectively, further comprising photographing instruction means (see figure 1, element 32) for giving a photographing instruction to said photographing means (see column 3, lines 38-40)

In regard to claim 66, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses a positioning information acquisition method (see figure 2) for a camera having photographing means and positioning means comprising the steps of:

executing photographing by said photographing means (see column 3, line 66 to column 4, line 5);

executing positioning by said positioning means to acquire positional information
(see column 3, lines 57-65); and

controlling a positioning operation by said positioning means and a photographing
operation by said photographing means are controlled in such a way that a positioning
timing of said positioning means and a photographing timing of said photographing
means do not overlap each other (see column 7, lines 59-65).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all
obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. **Claim 43 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohkado, US 6,351,613 in view of Takahashi et al., US 5,768,640.**

In regard to claim 43, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses a camera according to
claim 1. The Ohkado reference does not disclose that the predetermined timing for
obtaining said positional information is when said camera is powered on or powered off.

Takahashi et al., US 5,768,640, discloses a camera receives GPS information
when the main switch is turn on (see column 11, lines 52-58) and then the CPU displays
the information on an LCD (see column 11, lines 59-62).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the
invention to have been motivated to modify Ohkado, US 6,351,613 in view of Takahashi

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et al., US 5,768,640, to have the predetermined timing for obtaining said positional information be when said camera is powered on or powered off in order to display the information on the LCD.

7. Claim 56 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohkado, US 6,351,613, in view of Miyake, US 6,222,985.

In regard to claim 56, Ohkado, US 6,351,613, discloses the camera according to claim 22. The Ohkado reference lacks a priority operation setting means for selectively setting a priority of one of said positioning operation by said positioning means and said photographing operation by said photographing means over the other when said positioning operation and said photographing operation overlap each other and wherein said control means performs control to inhibit said positioning operation or said photographing operation based on a result of setting by said priority operation setting means.

Miyake, US 6,222,985, discloses a camera that records positional data, which is obtained by a GPS unit during photographing, wherein the CPU gives priority to the GPS unit to receive position data over performing image capture(see column 10, lines 50-55). When the GPS is receiving the positioning data and the release switch is fully pressed to signal photographing, the CPU first checks to see if the positional data has been fully received and if not, image-capture is prohibited until the GPS unit is finished receiving data (see figure 3, and column 11, lines 3-26).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to have been motivated to modify Ohkado, US 6,351,613, in view of Miyake, US

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6,222,985, to have a priority operations settings means as claimed in claim 56 in order to completely receive the positioning data before photographing as taught by Miyake.

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 16 and 39 are allowed.

In regard to claims 16 and 39, the prior art does not disclose a camera with a first and second positioning timing control means as claimed in claim 16 and 39.

9. Claim 45 and 46 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In regard to claim 45, the prior art does not disclose the camera according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined timing for obtaining said positional information is when a date is changed.

In regard to claim 46, the prior art does not disclose the camera of claim 1, wherein the predetermined timing for obtaining the positional information is when a folder provided in the memory means as a storage location for a photographed image is changed or a folder is newly provided.

Response to Arguments

10. Re claim 1) Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 22 have been considered but are moot in view of the new application of the Ohkado reference in response to the applicant's amendment.

11. Re claim 8) The Ohkado reference discloses in column 3, lines 11-15, the timer is arranged to be used for determining whether the predetermined period of time has elapsed from the preceding photo-taking operation. Figure 4, step 110 shows that if the time T1 has elapsed, then GPS information is received.

12. Re claim 9) The Ohkado reference discloses in figure 4 that when the release switch is turned on in step 108 and the CPU determines the time period T1 has elapsed in step 110, the CPU instructs the GPS receiving circuit to send the GPS information in step 112. Therefore it is clear that positioning is being executed when photographing is being instructed.

13. Re claim 12 and 15) The Ohkado reference discloses in figure 4, step 214, writing the GPS information to the film. The GPS information is associated with each of the photographed images since GPS information is received immediately following the completion of the series photographing mode and therefore is associated with the entire group comprising each picture.

14. Re claim 16) Applicant's arguments, see pages 27-29, filed 4/2/04, with respect to claim 16 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The 35 U.S.C. 102(e) of claim 16 has been withdrawn.

15. Re claim 18) The Ohkado reference discloses that a CPU does not drive the lens or shutter until step 114 in figure 2, after the GPS information has been received.

16. Re claim 19) The Ohkado reference discloses that the LED lights up when GPS information is not being received, so it is inherent that it notifies that GPS information is being received by not lighting up.

Conclusion

17. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gevell Selby whose telephone number is 703-305-8623. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 A.M. - 5:30 PM (every other Friday off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's primary, Ngoc-Yen Vu can be reached on 703-305-4946. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

gvs



ANDREW CHRISTENSEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600